

April 2020

Every year, a former congregant would place a note of scripture in my mailbox at work as Holy Week began. It was one verse from the letter to the Colossians. *Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth* (Col. 3:2).

She observed many ministers over many years push through the "gauntlet" of Holy Week. We mustn't forget those three specific details of the Maundy Thursday service. And of course we shouldn't let the old traditions of Good Friday fall through the cracks as we prepared for Easter. And of course Easter morning! Make sure the brass is good to go, the flowers are well organized, and this better be the best sermon of the year!

If we were to let the week be dictated by our human standards we would very soon see our human flaws. But if we kept our minds focused on God, the peace of Christ, and the Good News of the Gospel, every imperfect moment would bring us immeasurable joy.

We are in the midst of one of the strangest times in my ministry. It is one of the trickiest times in our church and certainly one of the most frightening in our world. I would never have believed anyone who told me that the hardest Holy Week would be determined by slowness and not the rush, by the overwhelming absence and not the overwhelming presence.

I know that we all want to be in our sanctuary. We miss the songs of our choir, the prayers we share together, the preached word (I hope), and our shared communion. Phone calls and videos do not feel like enough. Yet we must remember that the standard for church is not determined by our desires but by the ongoing proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In this time of uncertainty, I would ask that you join me in a mission that is so very hard for me to accomplish. Let us set our minds on those things above and trust that these will sustain us all below.

Peace, grace, and love as this Holy Week approaches.
Rev. Jonah Smith-Bartlett

save the date

Battery Park Christian Church and DOC Regional Minister the Reverend Bill Spangler-Dunning request your presence for the installation of

Reverend Jonah Smith-Bartlett

at

Battery Park Christian Church

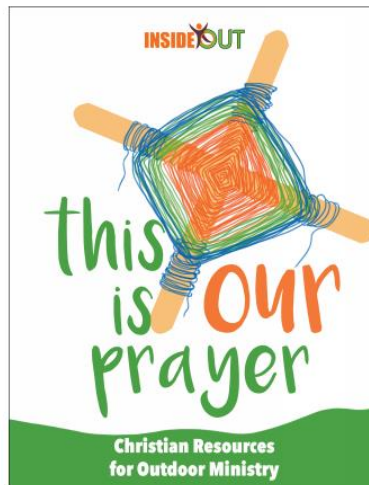
on

Sunday, July 26, 2020.

Details and Invitation to follow

Craig Springs Camp & Retreat Center

2020 Registration



Registration is available for the CCIVA Youth Retreat at

<https://www.ccinva.org/craig-springs-camp>



Notice the Improvements?

Have you noticed changes around the building? We have a bunch of members to thank for their efforts – too many to risk leaving someone out – they know who they are. We always have other fun projects that need to be done as well. Call the office if you want to help!

Completed

- Painted main hallway
- Replacement of light bulbs to LED
- Maintenance and painting benches outside the Fellowship Hall
- Cleaned-out and purged of items in the worship room
- Reorganized the library
- Repaired kitchen drawers
- Replaced emergency exit lights
- Fixed plumbing disaster (o.k. this was -Richard Garrett who got drenched)

In the works

- A park bench at the bus stop for neighbors to rest while waiting (GRTC is looking into it for us)
- Repair of several chairs (volunteers need to schedule a date)
- An entrance sign outside the Bellevue door (design has been drawn, but pricing and board approval incomplete).

On the wish list – Please let the office know if you are able to donate your time or resources to these projects.

- Spring/summer lawn maintenance such as pruning and weed pulling.
- Weeding gravel areas with a spray.
- Monitor the building during outside group activities as needed.
- Painting rooms, doors, trim work, as assigned by our Property Department
- Cleaning spaces not included in our weekly professional cleaning
- Sponsoring a bathroom or classroom doing whatever is necessary to bring it up to date,
- Repairing and/or upholstering furnishings in the parlor.
- Breaking down 2 old picnic tables and hauling them away
- Using Old English on the sanctuary pews and wainscot.

PRAYER REQUESTS – March 30, 2020

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Doug Bobbio, Bill Gotthardt, Betty Land

OTHER MEMBERS

Richard and Bonnie Garrett, Melissa and Eric Siler, Miriam Blake, Fran Pleasants, Mildred Hill, Herbert Tate, Lucy Baughan, Bill Kinsey, Jean Garthright, Chockie and Michael Roberts, Betty Huth, Richard Izquierdo

MEMBERS' FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Jennifer Greenburg and Casey Stockdon, son and daughter in law of Patsy Stockdon; Felicia Palmore, Daughter of Vivian Palmore; John Yates, who is in Hospice care, uncle of Joe Yates; Willie Crabtree, Jeanette Daniel's friend in Alaska; Mary Frances Garr; Melissa Seiler's sister, Lisa; Margaret Izquierdo's family in Kenya; William Mixon, brother of Frances Lucas; Dylan Wolfe, nephew of Gesla Rockingham

CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN MILITARY SERVICE

Kenneth & Christy Vaughan, Alex Seiler, Jessica and Daniel Bruce, Tim Williams, Troy Williams and Joseph Daniele, Tim and Cheryl Williams family

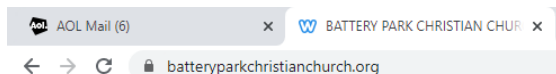
Names underlined indicate a new addition to the list, or current or recent hospitalization.

Worship with Battery Park Christian Church!

Online Worship

No matter where worship takes place it's important that we share the love of Christ to our friends during this time of crisis. Please share our video worship messages and Bible studies to your community via our website or Facebook.

Visit our Website for Online Sermons, Audio Sermons and E-Giving



BATTERY PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

HOME

ABOUT

MINISTRIES

VIDEO/AUDIO SERMONS

GIVING

EVANGEL NEWSLETTER

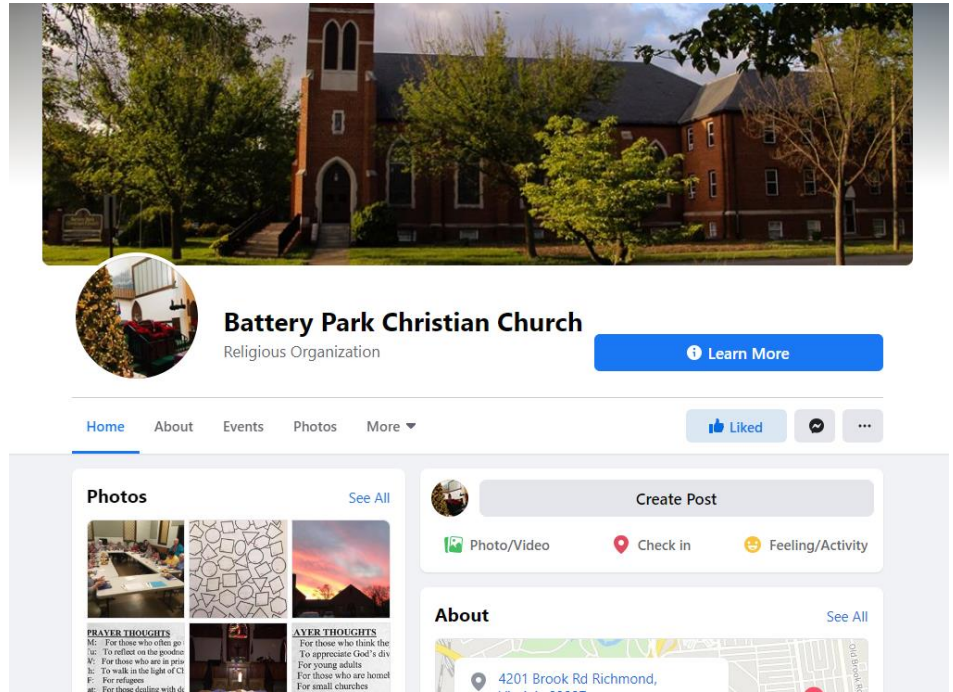
PHOTOS



Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/BatteryParkChristianChurch>

A great way to have impact in growing and supporting our church through these times is through the use of social media. If you use Facebook please make sure you “Like” and “Share” BPCC’s page, events, and sermons posted online. Rev. Jonah will be posting two videos per week to our community including a devotional and worship service.



Giving

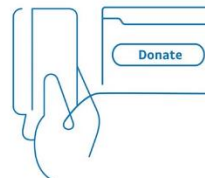
Mailing Offerings

Our staff will continually check our PO Box during these times of minimal church activities. Please feel free to use the self addressed envelope enclosed to return your weekly offering in lieu of Sunday services. Please use the memo line to designate any special offering directions.

E-Giving

Want to save the hassle of a stamp or check? Use BPCC’s E-Giving! Visit our website at www.BatteryParkChristianChurch.org/Giving and click the image to redirect to Paypal. Please place your monthly, weekly or special offerings there securely. If you would like the offering to be designated for something please email Lisa at the office BPCC.Office@Verizon.Net .

Questions? Email Lisa at the Office BPCC.Office@Verizon.net!



Click the image above to donate

Submit your weekly tithes and offerings here!

Use our PayPal to continue giving to the ministries at BPCC. Just click the icon and you can send your weekly or monthly tithes and offerings electronically.

If you have questions or want to designate your funds please email us at BPCC.Office@Verizon.net

A Note from our Office!

(*Sent Via Email last week)

Hello BPCC Family!

Now more than ever with our current pandemic it's crucial that we as a church family stick together and support each other and our church. I'm writing today less as your office secretary and more as a lady whose passion for ministry has no bounds and after a decade serving in every aspect of ministry is passionate about BPCC.



Right now we as a congregation are at a neat place in the history of the world and the church. It's absolutely terrifying for sure! But as believers, it's our obligation and joy to find God's blessings in all of this mess. This is our time to shine by persevering in prayer, in fellowship and dedication to our community. We've had a lot of smaller changes over the last month that I've been here and with this new entrance of current events it's time for some slightly larger changes that I hope are for the best.

I'm going to ask you to go on a step of faith with me to help keep our beloved BPCC community thriving. It's going to take each and every one of us to turn this into a moment of growth for our church. There are some changes you will be seeing this week that I, personally, am going to ask you to have faith in, to engage in, and to help support.

1. Due to this virus AND Gov. Northam's executive order, there are absolutely NO meetings, events or anything at church. Yes, you may just be here by yourself, and you may not get sick. But if you touched a common surface like a door handle after someone in the community tried the door you could pass this or any virus to another person such as your elderly parent or immunocompromised grandchild and they could absolutely become dangerously sick. Most of our national precautions aren't so much about keeping YOU healthy but to stop you from being a carrier to another vulnerable person.

2. The physical office hours will be drastically different. Jonah and I are working remotely for as much as we can to avoid common spaces. This means that I'm writing this email from my house but have full access to BPCC here. I will be in at least once a week for a few hours to make sure things such as bills, payroll, etc are cared for and I want to thank Bonnie for working so hard to train me. Rest assured there are many great and wonderful things that we can accomplish electronically. Jonah and I have a call every morning to go over the plans and goals for the day and week and are texting each other constantly.

3. We want you to contact us! PLEASE check in (not in person) on your fellow members! PLEASE email me here with your updates, your prayer concerns. Many members send emails to friends and Jonah and I are at risk of missing a crucial update you'd pop by to share with us, especially with the office closed. Please remember to send news here or to Jonah! Jonah is making calls and virtual visits possible for members so they never see an interruption in pastoral care despite the ability to be physically present.

-Please send all Prayer Requests, Medical Updates etc that you'd like shared with the congregation directly to me here! I will be sending out a weekly email to our congregation that includes prayer lists, news, scriptures for the week's sermons etc. to keep us connected.

4. We want you to stay CONNECTED! BPCC is blessed to have Jonah who is completely dedicated to keeping his flock cared for! There are Three ways he's doing this so far and we need you to click, to get engaged, to log on and be part of his hard work.

- Weekly Sermons are Posted on [BPCC's Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#) channels.
- Mid Week Devotions are Posted on [BPCC's Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#) channels.

-Starting this week Jonah would like to start a virtual experience where you can talk to him, pray with him, and have face to face conversation... be it from your phone or computer via the program Zoom. We want to hear from you to know... Are you interested? Do you need technology help? What's a great time to do this? Please email us ASAP!

5. We are doing some major overhauling of current assets. I personally want to thank Patsy for all her hard work, and for her grace in mentoring me through learning the bulletin, the Evangel and website. Starting this week we will keep everything that's on [BPCC's Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#) channels but will be editing and overhauling many of the things you have seen before. This is in an effort to make our media reach more accessible to the greater community. Mostly look for website updates, FB events etc. and the March Evangel to come out next monday. Have lots of patience and grace with me as I sort through piles of old duplicate email addresses if you get this twice!

-Please help by visiting on [BPCC's Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#) channels where you should "Like" and "Share" all things BPCC so our community reach grows.

I have loved my short six weeks here at what I've grown to call my "castle church". A big beautiful building that's a testament to the community of our faith, and love. Full of wonderful people that love this church so much. We are in this together. I've met a fraction of the great faces I've talked to via email, paper mail, and phone call. I can't wait till the world is well again so I can see your face, have a coffee break at my desk and learn what BPCC means to you.

In the meantime...

Email me! Shoot me a message through BPCC's FB! Call or text my cell! I'm excited to call BPCC both home and family and can't wait to talk to you!

Bless us all!

Lisa Beckwith
Your BPCC Secretary

BPCC.Office@verizon.net

804-441-5206 (My Cell)



Income and Expenses, Jan 1 - Mar 26, 2020

Income	
Offering	17,454
Building use	6,350
Other	1,318
Total Income	25,122
Expenses	
Personnel	20,686
Utilities and Maintenance	14,399
Unexpected Major Expenses	2,495
Other	1,630
Total expenses	39,210
Net loss (taken from reserves)	(14,098)



Blessings to you, and may you have many more happy birthdays!

Gary Colbert	4/9
Judy Pollard	4/12
Jason Richardson	4/13
Robin Blanton	4/15
Audrey Heckman	4/19
Mandy Williams	4/23
Vivian Palmore	4/26
Tom Huth-Scruggs	4/28